

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY E:RMPOATS

APPROVED BY E:CWROBINSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 011911

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EGY, USEGJC

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL AID TO EGYPT: 1976

REF: CAIRO 0005

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON

1. WE WISH TO MAKE POSITIVE AND HELPFUL RESPONSE TO FAHMY'S REQUEST FOR HELP IN EGYPT'S 1976 INTERNATIONAL FUND-RAISING BUT TO DO SO IN WAYS WHICH AVOID ANY GROUNDS FOR EGYPTIAN MISCONCEPTION THAT USG IS TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONDUCTING THE CAMPAIGN OR FOR ITS RESULTS.

2. ACCORDINGLY, AS INDICATED DURING AMBASSADOR'S WASHINGTON CONSULTATION, YOU SHOULD RESPOND TO FAHMY'S REQUEST, REFTTEL, THAT IN VIEW OF GOE'S UNWILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT OUR EARLIER SUGGESTIONS OF AN IBRD-LED CONSORTIUM AND INFEASIBILITY OF A SUCCESSFUL USG-LED FUND

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RAISING EFFORT, WE HAVE NEW SUGGESTION, AS FOLLOWS:

(A) GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT SHOULD INVITE INTERESTED FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES TO AN EARLY MEETING IN EGYPT TO CONSIDER EGYPT'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE PLANS, CURRENT COMMITMENTS OF FOREIGN FINANCING (BOTH DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND NON-PROJECT), AND RESIDUAL REQUIREMENTS FOR AID IN 1976. MEETING WOULD BE AIMED AT CREATING INFORMAL AID CONSULTATIVE GROUP.

(B) GOE WOULD PREPARE FOR ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING BY EMPLOYING EGYPTIANS EXPERIENCED IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND IN USE OF IBRD FORMS OF PRESENTATION, USING WHENEVER POSSIBLE DATA CERTIFIED BY IBRD.

(C) GOE WOULD MAKE BOTH POLITICAL LEVEL AND TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS TO GROUP, COVERING BOTH IMMEDIATE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FINANCING AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT FINANCING, EGYPTIAN SELF-HELP MEASURES, ETC.

(D) USG WOULD SEND APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVE TO MEETING WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO TAKE POSITIVE, SUPPORTIVE POSITIONS. USG ALSO WOULD ENCOURAGE IBRD TO SEND EFFECTIVE AND POSITIVE SPOKESMAN TO MEETING.

(E) AFTER MEETING, GOE WOULD PURSUE AID REQUESTS BILATERALLY WITH PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS, AND USG WOULD FOLLOW UP THESE APPROACHES IN THEIR CAPITALS ON BASIS OF CASE BY CASE REQUEST TO US EMBASSY CAIRO BY GOE.

(F) SECOND MEETING OF GROUP MIGHT BE CALLED BY GOE LATER IN YEAR IF REQUIRED.

3. IF DISCUSSION WITH FAHMY INDICATES THAT ADDITIONAL USG ACTION IS REQUIRED, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER:

(A) VISIT TO CAIRO BY ROBINSON AT END OF FEBRUARY TO ADVISE GOE MINISTERS IN PLANNING THEIR CAMPAIGN AND PRESENTATION TO CONSULTATIVE GROUP;

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(B) ASSIGNMENT OF AID EXPERT TO GIVE CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE TO EGYPTIAN TECHNICIANS IN DRAFTING GOE PRESENTATION TO CONSULTATIVE GROUP.

HOWEVER, NEITHER OF THESE ADDITIONAL ACTIONS SHOULD BE OFFERED UNTIL EMBASSY HAS COMMUNICATED TO DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENT OF NEED FOR THESE STEPS AND RECOMMENDED HOW

THEY COULD BE PRESENTED AND HANDLED SO AS TO MINIMIZE
RISKS OF EGYPTIANS TURNING OVER WORK AND RESPONSIBILITY
TO USG. KISSINGER

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